

# Why Time Is Not of the Essence with Rescues



According to the *Oxford English Dictionary*, “time” is the most used noun in the English language. Humans are obsessed with time and deadlines, and this can actually impair our rescue pets.

## The 3/3/3 Rescue Rule

The human need for deadlines makes the 3/3/3 Rescue Rule so enticing. It provides a timeline to rate a rescue dog's adjustment and gives new guardians an idea of when they should expect particular changes.

According to the 3/3/3 rule, as a new guardian, you should expect that after

three days you're new dog won't be as scared and will want to interact. Then at three weeks, the expectation is for the dog's personality to start to come out, and you will start seeing a lot of behaviours: the good, the bad, and the ugly. Then after three months, your dog will be completely at home, completely trust you, and your life together will really start.

However, this scenario just isn't realistic. Each dog is an individual who comes with their own experiences, needs, and

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## SEPTEMBER 2021

### THE OFFICIAL SPEAKING OF DOGS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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#### About Speaking of Dogs

Speaking of Dogs is a Toronto-based organization that launched in 2001 and is dedicated to educating and enlightening people about dogs through seminars, workshop forums, outreach and rescue. Our goal is to end cruelty, abandonment, mistreatment and homelessness of man's best friend.

*Speaking of Dogs Rescue is the operating name of Speaking of Dogs Rescue Program, a Canada Revenue Agency—registered charity based in Ontario.*

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#### Newsletters

If you no longer want to receive our newsletter, email [newsletter@speakingofdogs.com](mailto:newsletter@speakingofdogs.com), with “unsubscribe” written in the subject line.

# Dogs Looking for Homes

## A friend in need is a friend indeed

Without a doubt, a dog is a real friend. Our dogs come in all shapes and sizes, but they have one thing in common—they all need loving forever homes. Open your heart and your home to a rescue dog. You'll be glad you did. For complete information about the adoption process, please visit [www.speakingofdogs.com/adoption-process](http://www.speakingofdogs.com/adoption-process). For more information on each dog, simply click on their name.

## Ace

SHEPHERD MIX  
LARGE, SENIOR, MALE

### FEATURED DOG:

Ace is an approximately 10-year-old Shepherd mix who was surrendered to a Toronto area shelter when his owner could no longer care for him. He's about 65 pounds, neutered, fully vetted, and ready for adoption!

Despite his age, this handsome hunk of a dog is in terrific shape! He's agile, can easily jump into a vehicle, and is light on his feet. He's always ready for a walk or backyard fun, but he's also up for snuggling on the couch, TV time, or an afternoon cat nap – he's a fella who goes with the flow.

Ace has been with various dogs at the Roverdale doggy daycare and has been social and patient with everyone. He even got an A+ for being tolerant with a young Doberman who was bouncing about. He has not, however, been tested with cats.

Ace is housetrained and is not destructive or anxious when left alone. His foster mom says he has wonderful manners and is a calm, relaxed housemate. He's also good natured and sweet, easy to live with, and even easier to love – a true gem.

If you are working from home and on a ZOOM meeting or phone call, Ace is a very respectful colleague. He doesn't interrupt, try to steal the



spotlight, or bark his opinion in the background. He's happy to be your silent work partner! He will, however, appreciate a walk and a snack after your meeting...

Ace would love a forever home with a backyard so he can sunbathe, play

ball, and putter around. Someone who is retired or works from home would be ideal as he really enjoys human companionship.

This Ace is a diamond, could he be your new best friend?





*Lyra*

LABRADOR / CATTLE DOG MIX  
LARGE, YOUNG, FEMALE



*Maggie Mae*

WHEATEN TERRIER  
MEDIUM, SENIOR, FEMALE



*Ariel*

COTON DE TULEAR  
SMALL, ADULT, FEMALE



*Bear*

SHIH TZU / TERRIER MIX  
SMALL, SENIOR, MALE



*Peek & Boo*

BORDER COLLIE / LABRADOR MIXES | MEDIUM, SENIOR, FEMALES  
COURTESY POST FOR SOUTHERN ONTARIO SHELTYE RESCUE



*Kobi*

SPANIEL / POODLE MIX  
SMALL, ADULT, MALE



*Lily*

PUG MIX  
SMALL, ADULT, FEMALE



*JR*

PUG / JACK RUSSEL TERRIER MIX  
SMALL, SENIOR, MALE

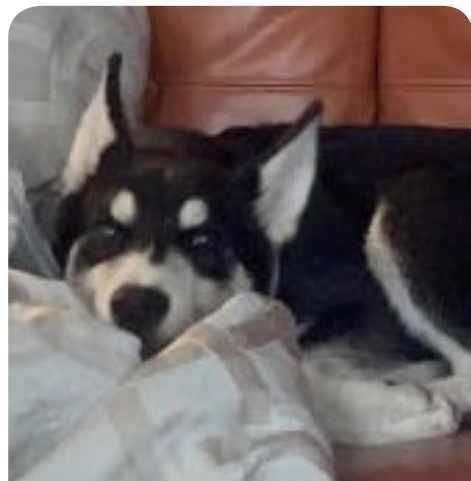




**Baker**  
LABRADOR RETRIEVER  
LARGE, SENIOR, MALE



**BenBen**  
SHIH TZU MIX  
SMALL, SENIOR, MALE



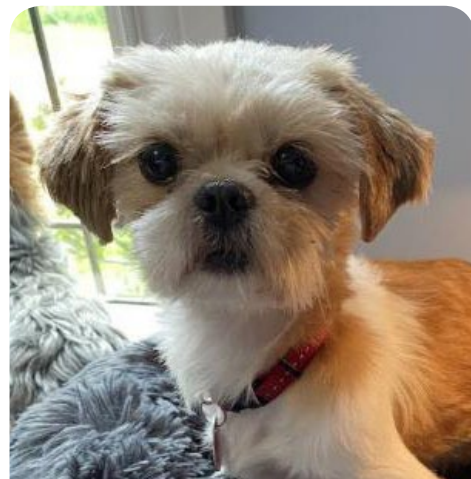
**Roland**  
HUSKY  
MEDIUM, YOUNG, MALE



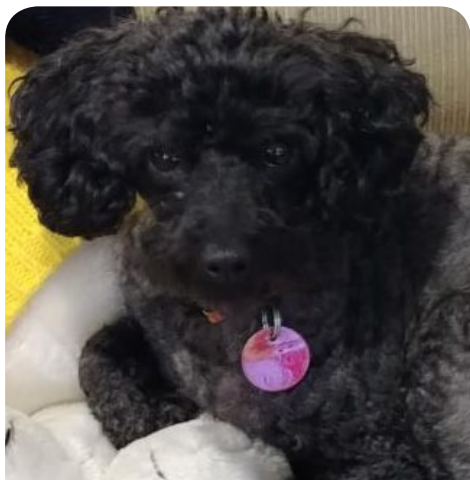
**Benz**  
CHIHUAHUA  
SMALL, ADULT, MALE



**Jones**  
LABRADOR / HUSKY MIX  
X-LARGE, YOUNG, MALE



**Joanne**  
SHIH TZU  
SMALL, ADULT, FEMALE



**Gypsy**  
POODLE  
SMALL, ADULT, FEMALE



**China**  
SHIH TZU  
SMALL, SENIOR, FEMALE

## A BARK AND A TWEET!

Speaking of Dogs is now on Twitter!  
Check us out at  
<https://twitter.com/speakingofdogs>.



# Ask the Trainer

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preferences. It's just not fair to put a general timeline on rescues.

What if your dog doesn't come out from under the table by day three? Or what if your rescue is not comfortable in their environment and is still very skittish to noise after three months? What if your dog never has any issue and is just happy go lucky right from the start? Will you be waiting for some weird behaviour to pop out at the three-week mark?

## One Rule Doesn't Fit All

These sorts of timelines can set you and your rescue up for unnecessary stress and struggle. You may start to panic or stress because things are taking longer than they "should," and you may try to rush your dog into situations that they're not ready for thinking they'll "get over it." Or you may ignore behaviours that really need to be addressed because you think they're just part of the acclimatization process.

Instead of putting your rescue on a timeline, work within your dog's own acclimation process. Here are some key points to help your dog feel more at home and build your relationship:

## Decompression Time

- We are so excited to introduce our new addition to friends and family, but it is best to hold off until your dog has had time to learn about their new home and immediate environment
- In the beginning, walks should be kept short and you should walk the same route until you can see your dog's confidence build.

- Focus on mental enrichment rather than physical exercise because this will help your dog relax and build confidence. Search for "brain games for dogs" and you will see a ton!
- Learn about dog body language and subtle signs of stress so you can help your dog through situations, create positive associations, and recognize the signs when your dog is truly confident.

## Building Trust

- Body language is also a big part of building trust. Knowing the signs of when a dog wants to be pet or not or when a dog needs space is key to building trust in the beginning.
- Allow your dog to initiate contact. They'll do it when they're ready.
- Give your dog space. If they are eating or sleeping, avoid petting or initiating close contact.
- Quiet praise and lots of rewards when your dog does something you like will go a long way!

## Teach Confidence-Building Skills

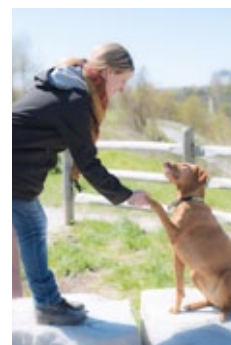
- Teach your dog to target your hand so that you can redirect their attention and move them off furniture or away from something without handling them. It's a fun and easy trick to teach!
- Rewarding eye contact is another great skill that will be really helpful when you're out and about in your neighbourhood. When your dog looks to you, give them a tasty treat!
- "Relax on a mat" is a great skill to give both of you space when needed

(such as when you're cooking, eating dinner, or working), and it helps your dog to learn to relax when they may feel overwhelmed or too excited.

- Sniffing is a dog's way of learning about the world, and it also promotes calmness. Play sniffing games such as sprinkling something yummy in the grass or around your house and have your dog search it out.

Working with your dog and not within a deadline will make this journey a positive one for both of you and create an everlasting, trusting bond.

My company, EduCanine, created a wonderful program called "The Rescue Plan" that addresses decompression, how to read your dog for signs of stress, how to create a safe environment inside and outside, and important skills to teach your dog to navigate their new world. You can learn more by going to <https://educanine.org/the-rescue-plan>.



**Andrea Dinan**, CPDT-KA, is also certified through Karen Pryor Foundations and Aggression in Dogs Master Course, member of the International Positive Dog Training Association, and founder of City Dogs Dog Training and EduCanine.

# PLEASE CHOOSE SPEAKING OF DOGS RESCUE!

**TORONTO STAR**

READERS' CHOICE AWARDS 2021

It's Reader's Choice time again, and we're delighted and grateful to be nominated in a few different categories. Speaking of Dogs Rescue is a registered charity run solely by volunteers, and this year we're proudly celebrating 20 years of promoting responsible pet ownership and caring for and rehoming dogs in need.

We'd be very grateful if you could take a few moments to help spread the word about the wonderful dogs in our care by voting for our rescue. All you need to do is follow the links below, sign in, and cast your vote for Speaking of Dogs Rescue!

## Toronto Star Readers' Choice Awards:

- [Animal rescue](#)
- [Non-profit/foundation](#)
- [Pet adoption services](#)

## Simcoe County Readers' Choice Awards:

- [Animal rescue](#)
- [Pet adoption services](#)

*Voting closes on Sunday, September 19th!*

**RECALL**

Click the link for details on this month's recalls:

- [Whiskas dry cat food](#)
- [Simply Nourish dog food](#)
- [Top Quality dog food](#)
- [The FDA also issued a formal warning to Midwestern Pet Foods, maker of 12 different brands of pet food](#)

## FALL IS IN THE AIR, BUT OUR FACEBOOK AUCTIONS ARE ALWAYS IN SEASON!

Speaking of Dogs Rescue's Facebook page not only includes lots of info about all of the amazing dogs we're helping, every week we auction off different items – all for the dogs! Visit our [Facebook page](#) regularly to see what's on the block and to place your bids.

Good luck to all of the bidders, and most enthusiastic wags and wiggles to all of our supporters who have donated auction items.



# GARAGE SALE



**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>  
8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.  
511 KENT STREET, WHITBY**

*All proceeds donated to Speaking of Dogs Rescue*



# Speaking of Flashbacks



We were rocking the adoptions and the social circuit during 2014 and 2015!

We found homes for about 270 dogs and had some incredible fundraisers to cover the cost of the Forever in Foster program and the many medical cases we took in.

We were busy with yard sales, galas, pet expos, adoption days, Halloween parties, Slobberfest and Dog Lovers' Days. We also hosted two seminars: Dogs Playing for Life and Getting in Shape. But it

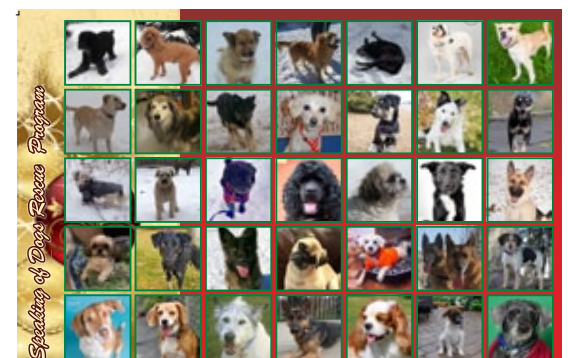
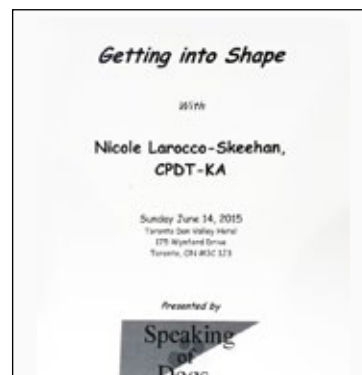


wasn't just events. We also continued to publish rescue directories and the annual calendar.

Looking back at the many photos, newsletters, and posters from that time, we seemed to be busy throughout the entire year, with a fundraiser or other event for every season! We even made time for a monthly get together for our volunteers and dogs down by the lake. What wonderful memories!













# Adoption Update

*To: Speaking of Dogs Rescue*

*From: Shelley Baker*

*Subject: Tobie Jett*

Dear Speaking of Dogs Rescue,

Tobie Jett is doing wonderful! He is a great addition to our family, as we have two other rescue dogs from SOD (Jada Rose and Tilley, aka Tula).

No health or behavioural issues. Tobie went to several classes: he did a puppy

class, play groups, obedience classes, and intro to agility.

He's a character, never a dull moment. He is smart, funny and has a sweet personality. We are very pleased to have him in our lives.

We just participated in the Virtual Walk for SOD. We actually won for best media pics.

I hope the other siblings from this litter are doing great as well.





# Happy Tails

## RECENT ADOPTIONS:

A big thank you to our foster parents and our new adoptive guardians for helping give these loving dogs a second chance.



Annie



Robbie



Bailey



Beanie



Bobby



Bum Bum & Oreo



Duke



Grover



Happy



# More Happy Tails



Jax



Moose



Oscar



Peggy



Shane



Snowbelle



Stitch



Willa





# In Memoriam



*Pippin*

LOVED BY LYNDIA AND TOM  
ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 2011



*Tiny aka Rook*

LOVED BY STEVE, DAWNA AND KATIE  
ADOPTED JANUARY 2014



*Tenzig*

LOVED BY JANET AND ROB  
ADOPTED 2011



*Ace aka Bobby*

LOVED BY EDWINA AND FAMILY  
ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 2019



# In Memoriam



*Buddie*

LOVED BY DONNA, DOUG AND ALL OF US  
AT SPEAKING OF DOGS RESCUE  
FOREVER IN FOSTER



*River*

LOVED BY MONICA, SCOTT AND  
ALL OF US AT SPEAKING OF DOGS RESCUE  
FOREVER IN FOSTER



*Lucy Lou*

LOVED BY MARIA, GREG AND EVERYONE  
AT SPEAKING OF DOGS RESCUE  
FOREVER IN FOSTER



*Honey*

LOVED BY BONNIE AND EVERYONE FROM  
HER ST. JOHN AMBULANCE THERAPY DOG TEAM  
ADOPTED NOVEMBER 2016